

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A glass-ceramic plate ~~intended, for example, to cover or receive heating elements, and comprising at least one opening located within a local deformation of the bent portion of said plate, this opening being at a location other than a heating area and/or having at least one dimension greater than 10 cm and/or an angular and/or complex shape.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein it said plate is ~~provided or combined or intended configured to be used with a suction hood for allowing in particular for the extraction of cooking gases.~~
3. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in ~~either of claims 1 and 2~~ claim 1, wherein the said opening is at least 35 mm from the ~~an~~ edge and/or from each heating area of the plate.
4. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the said opening occupies a position ~~mid-way between the cooking areas, generally it is in a central area of the~~ said plate.
5. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein the said opening has a polygonal or angular shape.
6. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 2, wherein the said suction hood is located beneath the said plate in its operating position.
7. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 2, wherein the said opening is covered with a protective element ~~preventing configured to~~

prevent objects from dropping through it therethrough while still allowing the cooking gases to be sucked out, such as a mesh therethrough.

8. (Currently Amended) A process for manufacturing a plate as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, comprising the forming of the plate, ~~preferably consisting in by a sinking, molding or pressing operation, with, where appropriate, the use of~~ using one or more supports or one or more surfaces having the a desired geometry.

9. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 8, wherein a forming operation is carried out by a sinking operation, in order to raise the an edge of the opening relative to the a plane of the plate during the a glass plate ceramification cycle, the raising being ~~preferably~~ produced by ~~means of~~ an element or bearing piece ~~of~~ having a shape corresponding to that of the opening that it is desired to obtain.

10. (Currently Amended) A cooking and/or high-temperature-maintaining device comprising a glass-ceramic plate as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for manufacturing a glass-ceramic plate as claimed in one of claims 1 to 7, comprising at least one element or bearing piece for producing the raised feature bent portion.

12. (New) The plate as claimed in claim 7, wherein said protective element is a mesh.

13. (New) The plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plate is of a one-piece construction.

14. (New) The plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein an outer peripheral edge around said opening is bent upwards.

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15. (New) The plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein said opening is at least 35 mm from each heating area of said plate.